

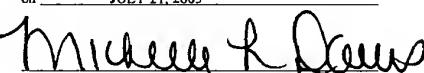
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*Group*                      }                      Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. 1.10  
*Art Unit:*      Unknown      }                      "EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER  
                                }                      EL905876010US  
                                }  
*Attorney*                    }  
*Docket No.:*      NPO0002-02      }  
                                }  
*Applicant:*      Naoki Minami      }  
                                }  
*Invention:*      METHOD OF FORMING A UNITED      }  
                            EXOTHERMIC MEDIUM AND A  
                            HEATING ELEMENT      }  
                                }  
*Serial No.:*      Unknown      }  
                                }  
*Filed:*              Herewith      }  
                                }  
*Examiner:*      Unknown      }

DATE OF DEPOSIT JULY 21, 2003  
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on JULY 21, 2003

  
MICHELLE L. DAVIS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

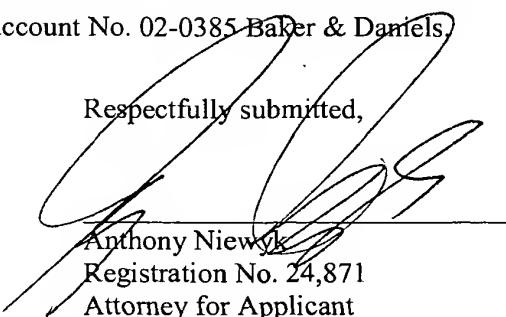
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents identified on the attached form PTO-1449.

Each of the references cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited during the prosecution of parent U.S. Patent Application No. 09/973,230 filed October 9, 2001 and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/530,635 filed May 3, 2000. Accordingly, copies of these references are believed to be available to the Examiner. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), additional copies of these references are not being submitted herewith.

No representation is intended that a complete search has been made of the prior art, or that prior art references other than those listed on the attached form are available. The citation of these references shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is considered material to patentability of the subject invention.

If any fees are necessary in connection with this document, and/or insufficient fees are sent herewith, please charge Account No. 02-0385 Baker & Daniels.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Facsimile: 260-460-1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Docket Number (Optional) NPO0002-02	Application Number Unknown
		Applicant(s) NAOKI MINAMI	
		Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,261,347	7/1966	Sherman			
		4,199,548	4/1980	Kaiho et al.			
		4,205,685	6/1980	Yoshida et al.			
		4,230,595	10/1980	Yamaji et al.			
		4,255,157	3/1981	Yamaguchi et al.			
		4,282,005	6/1980	Sato			
		4,522,190	6/1985	Kuhn et al.			
		5,046,479	9/1991	Usui			
		5,233,981	8/1993	Miyashita			
		5,425,975	6/1995	Koiso et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	JP59-189183	10/1984	Japan				
	JP 6-26555	4/1994	Japan				
	JP 358011581	1/1993	Japan				
	JP 58132074	8/1983	Japan				
	GB 2 303 208	12/1997	United Kingdom				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

*(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Docket Number (Optional) NPO0002-02		Application Number Unknown				
		Applicant(s) NAOKI MINAMI						
		Filing Date Herewith		Group Art Unit Unknown				
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,879,378	3/1999	Usui				
		5,890,486	4/1999	Mitra et al.				
		5,918,590	7/1999	Burkett et al.				
		5,984,995	11/1999	White				
		6,048,326	4/2000	Davis et al.				
		6,099,556	8/2000	Usui				
		6,146,732	11/82000	Davis et al.				
		6,158,427	12/2000	McGuire et al.				
		6,264,681	7/2001	Usui				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>								
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>				
<b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								